



City Times

NEWSLETTER

HAPPY MAY, TEAM!

"The beautiful spring came, and when nature resumes her loveliness, the human soul is apt to revive also."

—Harriet Ann Jacobs

Take a look at **WHAT'S NEXT** for COL below:

- **Ware on C – May Event:** 5:30-8 p.m. May 2 @4th & C Avenue
- **Tai Chi, Page Turners & More:** Throughout May @Lawton Public Library
- **2019 Trash Off:** 8-2 p.m. May 4 @McMahon Memorial Auditorium
- **Spring Open Street:** 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. May 25 @Downtown C Avenue

OPEN ENROLLMENT WILL BE MAY 22ND – JUNE 7TH ONLINE. YOU MAY ENROLL AT ANY TIME ON YOUR PERSONAL COMPUTER OR ONE-ON-ONE. HELP WILL BE AVAILABLE AT: PUBLIC WORKS, MAY 22-23RD FROM 7-5; CITY HALL, JUNE 5TH-6TH FROM 8-6.

**PLEASE CALL CINDY GRIFFIN
IN HUMAN RESOURCES AT 580.581.3392
WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.**



**MAY 2019
CITY MANAGERS OFFICE
580.581.3301**



Milestone Moment

*Grown-Ups
Only Easter
Egg Hunt!*



Parks & Recreation staff, in coordination with community volunteers, hosted the City's first 'Grown-Ups Only' Easter Egg Hunt at the Louise D. McMahon Park on Easter weekend. Hundreds of citizens came out to enjoy the hunt, food trucks, prizes, vendors and fellowship!

Another first for Lawton – special thanks to Activities Coordinator Michell Rosario and ALL who made this event a great success!

**APPLICATIONS NOW
AVAILABLE FOR FIRST
CITIZEN’S ACADEMY**

Under the visionary leadership of City Manager Michael Cleghorn, the City of Lawton will kick off its first Citizen’s Academy in July 2019. The program is designed to educate and enlighten the community in all things local government.

“It is important that we, as city government, take advantage of every opportunity to educate our citizens on how their tax dollars are being spent,” Cleghorn said. “This is a free and interactive program designed to familiarize the community on the roles, services and operations that comprise their local government and we are really looking forward to its first year.”

The 14-week course will include site visits, as well as overviews of every major department within the City of Lawton. It will be held for two hours weekly, with most classes taking place at Lawton City Hall.

“This is a chance to put names to faces and to have all of your questions about local government answered,” said Tiffany Martinez Vrska, community relations director and program coordinator. “Communication and transparency are vital in moving our city forward, and this course allows City staff to place those priorities on the forefront.”

Applications are available in the Office of the City Manager, 212 SW Ninth Street in Downtown Lawton, during traditional business hours and online at lawtonok.gov. They must be turned in no later than July 3, 2019. Orientation will be July 25, 2019. Questions about the program can be relayed to Vrska at 580.581.3301 or publicaffairs@lawtonok.gov.

[Find an academy application or learn more here.](#)



**HAPPY, HAPPY
BIRTHDAY TO YOU!**

May Employee Birthdays:

Joshua Hall	Saphyre Fisk	AJ Jabbar
Timothy Lile	Mark Moore	Chad Akard
Blake Patterson	Nicholas Brown	Clyde Bowers
German Arango	Chase Morgan	Marilyn Cater
Stephanie Tehauno	Michael Albert	Keith Neitzke
Steven Laminack	Charles Criger	Tanya Organ
Charles Whittington	Michael Walker	Dru Rosario
Robert Whittington	Craig Caldwell	Billie Whipp
Richard Botts Jr.	Wilburn Winham	Kayla Hall
John Ward	Robert Bay	Rachel Flores
Clinton Kizarr	Robert Kizarr	Brett Ford
Nicholas Chilcote	Robert Camp Jr.	Jason Sellers
Cristny Halye Engle	Austin Mahsetky	Daniel Harter
Matthew Caldwell Jr.	Brittany Queen	Jorg Kidd
Matthew Harms	Ryan Bradshaw	Eric Carter
Alan Rosenbaum	Brandon Williams	Reece Maitlen
Jeanie Wheeler	Mark Schucker	Chris Hall
Courtney Waldron	Edmond Booker	Karen Clark
Francis Drapeau	Judy McConnell	Chad Meyer
Cindy Augustine	Christopher Jones	Lynda Barreal
Antonio Ervin	Jeremy Coe	Frank Jensen
Colin Book	Courtney Kastner	David Ellis
Eugene McCracken	Keith Jackson	Eric Shady
Jesse Martinez	Stacey McMillion	Shawn Seeley
Montra Bradley	Gregory Adams	Teri Bayones

**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
YEARS OF SERVICE!**

May Employment Anniversaries

10 YEARS

Steven Laminack, LFD
Joshua Brown, LFD
Sonya Jones, Lakes

15 YEARS

Billie Whipp, LAH

20 YEARS

John Schwenk Jr., LPD
Britt Hubbard, SSTD

20+ YEARS

Michael Kelley, LPD
Ricky McCollister, LPD

20+ YEARS (cont'd)

Charlie Martin, LPD
Kenneth Parsons, LPD
Timothy Poff, LPD
Wilburn Winham, LPD
Robert Witten, LPD
Sir Allen, WWM
Adrian Mayweather, LPD
Jeffrey Hall, LPD
Eric Troutman, LFD
Danny Hamblin, Public Works
Ramon Ortega, Public Works
Mike Porter, Engineering
Bobby Sanders, LFD
Bobby Cooper, SWC

**CONGRATS to this year’s SERVICE
AWARDS HONOREES!**

[View a Full List HERE](#)



#MEET
THE TEAM
MONDAY

City staff from all divisions are welcome to send in individual or team photos alongside information about the services they provide each day for the community! Please send to tvrska@lawtonok.gov or text 580.351.4425

WELCOME, WELCOME!
New COL Hires

Clinton Robinson, Streets
Ronald Wiese, Streets
Robert Edwards, SWC
Ellaina Pinkerton, E911
Ashlie Davis, E911
Sienna Gomez, E911
Paige Kilgore, E911
Jacklyn Laux-Shaw, E911
Lisa Silvestre, E911
Daniel Looney, Drainage Maint.
Barbara Evans, MPWTP
Stephen Youmans, Streets
Ramses Bermudez-Alicea, WWC
Cody Crabtree, WWTP

2019 International Festival – LAST WEEKEND IN SEPTEMBER!



May 10: Poster Design Deadline

June 14: Festival Brochure Advertising Deadline

June 14: Vendor & Display Application Deadline

TBA: Volunteer Performer Application Deadline, call for information

Ongoing: Volunteer sign up for Information Booth, Stages, and other festival assistance

September 27, 28, & 29: FESTIVAL!!!

Lawton's International Festival will celebrate its 40th anniversary of promoting greater awareness and appreciation of Lawton's diverse heritage. The festival is a project of the Lawton Arts & Humanities Council's International Festival Committee and the City of Lawton. Applications are now available for Food, Sales, & Display Vendors. The opportunity to be in the festival's brochure will close on June 14 by 5 p.m. The deadline to submit art for the festival's poster design competition is May 10 by 5 p.m. Availability of the Volunteer Performer Application coming soon! Those interested in being a volunteer performer should call the LAH Office to be added to the mailing list.



The festival provides culturally based organizations and other groups and individuals an opportunity to display aspects of their culture. It also fosters community spirit and participation through involvement. With no admission fees and free concerts, this family oriented extravaganza is full of fun, food, children's games and activities, demonstration artists, sales vendors, and multicultural entertainment. The festival is held in Elmer Thomas Park located at NW 3rd and Ferris Avenue. This park setting has amenities to include Children's area, ATM, parking adjacent to festival grounds, vendor parking on site, tour bus parking, restroom facilities, all of which are completely handicap accessible, and more!

The International Festival Committee invites everyone to participate in this citywide celebration. All multicultural organizations and clubs are invited to join us no matter where you live!!! The committee meets the first Tuesday each month, 6 pm at the McMahon Memorial Auditorium, 801 NW Ferris Avenue, unless otherwise announced. Meetings are open to the public.

YOU ARE INVITED....

Do you have a product or service that has an International flavor? Do you have an organization that is looking for new members? Would you like to reach approximately 32,000 people in three days? Why not consider being a festival sponsor, food vendor, sales vendor or having a display booth? Do you like to perform and entertain as a volunteer? We hope you will consider us.

Also, being a volunteer at the festival is a great way to meet new people in the community, get work experience for your resume, gain visibility for your organization or business, family or group activity, and just have FUN!!

For applications and information, visit the official website lawtonok.gov/departments/arts-and-humanities or call the Arts & Humanities Division at 580-581-3470 or 580-581-3471.